

**City of Middletown**  
Parks & Recreation Department  
100 Riverview Center  
Suite 140  
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

**Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes of January 5, 2012**  
**Held at the Recreation Department Office at 100 Riverview Center**

Present: Commissioners Gerry Winzer, Tom D'Aquila, Todd Berch and Sheila Jones. Chief of Staff Joe Samolis. Student Representatives Dhruvi Patel and Malcolm Alleyne. Director Raymond Santostefano representing the Parks and Recreation Department.

Absent: Commissioners Pessina and Romano. Commissioner Jaskot arrived at 7.24 p.m.

Call: Chairman Winzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, in the main room of the Recreation Office, at 100 Riverview Center, Suite 140.

Public Hearing: None

Motion: Commissioner Berch made a motion to move "miscellaneous" up on the agenda to be discussed. Commissioner D'Aquila seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was unanimously approved.

Miscellaneous: Tom Boller, who is working on his Eagle Scout "Light the Flag Pole" project, passed out information to the commissioners regarding installation of a solar light on the flag pole at Veteran's Green on Washington Street. He stated that he hopes to complete the project by early spring. He also stated that the Veterans agreed to this project. Director Santostefano requested that Mr. Boller submit documentation from the Veterans that they have agreed to the light installation.

Motion: Commissioner Berch made a motion to accept the "Light the Flag Pole" project. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes: Chairman Winzer requested a motion be made accepting the Parks and Recreation Commission minutes of December 1, 2011. Commissioner Berch accepted. Commissioner D'Aquila seconded the motion. Commissioner Jones abstained.

Vote: The Parks & Recreation Commission minutes were unanimously approved.

Department Reports: Director Santostefano discussed the Parks Department's winter maintenance schedule, including the washouts at Veterans Park, cleaning up of various areas and storm maintenance. He stated that the playground repairs have been ongoing. He also spoke

about the skating rink at Pat Kidney Field, which was being filled with water on Friday, January 6, 2012.

Director Santostefano discussed the Recreation Department's options regarding the bi-annual brochure mailing. Various options were reviewed and discussed. He also discussed the status of the Recreation Department's programs and spoke about the success of the Detroit Hunter Christmas Workshop, regarding donations that were received, pictures with Santa program and the 1200 Santa letters that were sent out to the children.

Correspondence: None

Miscellaneous: None

Old Business: Chairman Winzer stated that he was in the process of setting up a meeting with Fred Balsamo, regarding the CIAC tournament. He also spoke to Phil Cacciola, regarding the American Legion Tournament.

New Business: Chairman Winzer stated that a Parks and Recreation Commission Chairperson needed to be elected.

Motion: Commissioner D'Aquila made a motion to nominate Gerry Winzer as Chairman. Commissioner Berch seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: Commissioner Jones made a motion to nominate Tom D'Aquila as Vice Chairman. Commissioner Jaskot seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was unanimously approved.

Director Santostefano spoke about the revised Youth Sports Grant Application. He also stated that receiving the grant would be contingent on the leagues providing information on background checks of coaches and other volunteers in their league. Director Santostefano requested to amend the application and state background checks were required.

Discussion: The Commissioners discussed the details of background checks and arrived at the decision to gather more information and table the issue at this time.

Commissioner D'Aquila requested a copy of the lease for parking by Middlesex Hospital at Hubbard Field.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Berch. It was a unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Lori A. Marcati